

**For U.S. forces  
serving abroad**

# Stripes™



A news digest from The Stars and Stripes

Friday, April 10, 1998

Eight pages

## Storms in South kill 38

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Rescue crews went from one wrecked house to another and a helicopter with a sensor to detect body heat was flown in to help find the dead and alive Thursday after a tornado killed at least 32 people in Alabama.

Encouraged by finding a 9-month-old baby alive, Sheriff Jim Woodward said rescuers would continue looking for victims through the night until they were confident everyone was accounted for.

The tornado struck with winds up to 250 mph while many people in this Bible Belt area were at regular Wednesday night church services. Violent weather from the same storm system also killed five people in Georgia and one in Mississippi, for 38 deaths altogether.

In Alabama, nearly all of the dead were in small communities west of Birmingham, where some houses looked as if they had exploded. More than 40 people remained hospitalized, several of them in critical condition.

Gov. Fob James said 150 homes were destroyed and 300 heavily damaged.



AP

### Gail Millhouse looks over his destroyed home east of Atlanta.

President Clinton declared parts of Alabama and Georgia disaster areas, clearing the way for federal aid.

"It's quite amazing, and I hope you all say a prayer for those folks tonight, and join with them in spirit as they rebuild," the president said during a visit to a high school in Carrollton, Ky.

Vice President Al Gore told the governor that he would visit Friday.

In the town of Rock Creek, the tornado hurled one victim into a tree and flung others across streets and yards. The house

where Allison Brown and his wife, Hazel, spent most of their 89 years looked as if it had been blown up. They were found dead, together, two blocks away in a ditch. "I hope it was quick," said Lynn Pappas, their daughter.

"I hope they weren't afraid."

The twister ripped open trailer homes as well as houses with traditional foundations. Deb Helms and her two sons, Colby, 8, and Carson, 4, were killed.

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## Army reopens missing Guardsman probe

**By Los Angeles Times**

The U.S. Army has reopened its investigation into the disappearance last year of a California National Guard soldier assigned to Germany as part of the U.S. peacekeeping effort in Bosnia, officials said Thursday.

Military sources in Washington said the new probe was ordered after Army officials found that the initial investi-

gation into the disappearance of Spc. Mason Jacques Karl O'Neal was mishandled.

National Guard spokesman Lt. Col. Warren Alberts confirmed that the Guard was notified Wednesday that the case had been reopened.

An Army officer, who declined to be identified, said the Army's top general in Europe was ordered this week to launch a new probe into the

disappearance of O'Neal, 32, of Sunnyvale, Calif.

"The bottom line is that this soldier's case didn't go through normal channels at U.S. Army Europe. ... Mistakes were made that created confusion," he said.

O'Neal's disappearance has provoked a bitter dispute between the two military branches because the Army has branded O'Neal a deserter, but

the National Guard disagrees.

Rep. Anna G. Eshoo, D-Calif., also has inquired about O'Neal and has criticized the Army for its handling of the investigation and treatment of O'Neal's wife and three young children. O'Neal, assigned to the National Guard's 649th Military Police Co., had been showing signs of mental illness when he ran away July 17, 1997.

## POW museum is dedicated in Georgia

By Washington Post

ANDERSONVILLE, Ga. — Ray P. Perez and James Downey Jr. were Army buddies who shared unspeakable hardships as Japanese prisoners in World War II. Still friends half a century later, they came here to the site of an infamous Civil War prison to take part in the dedication Thursday of a museum erected to honor American prisoners of all wars.

For Perez and Downey, the dedication held special significance.

Fifty-six years ago Thursday in the Philippines — shortly before noon, they remember with clarity — they were captured by the Japanese army and forced to participate in one of the best documented atrocities of that war, the Bataan Death March.

Those among the 37,000 captured U.S. and Filipino soldiers who survived the 65-mile trek along Luzon island's Bataan peninsula, Downey said, "got two nights rest and one sweet potato."

Perez, 76, of Staten Island, N.Y., and Downey, 83, of Newport News, Va., were among 5,000 people — many old and frail, leaning on canes or supported by relatives — who came from across the country for the dedication ceremony.

The moment constituted what may be the last mass "gathering of eagles," as Andersonville National Historic Site superintendent Fred Boyles called it, because the number of surviving POWs is dwindling.

## Sergeant loses stripe after beating

BEAUFORT, S.C. (AP) — A sergeant who pleaded guilty to violating a Marine Corps order barring hazing was demoted in connection with the beating of a private at Fort Knox, Ky.

Sgt. Michael P. Whitaker, 25, of Great Falls, Mont., was demoted to corporal during a special court-martial at the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort on Wednesday. He also was reprimanded in a letter. Whitaker, who had been a tank-maintenance instructor, was one of nine Marines charged after the beating of Pvt. Maciej Lugowski. Lugowski, 20, of New York City, lost his spleen and suffered

## April is the deadliest month for tornados

WASHINGTON (AP) — The violent storms that swept through Alabama add once again to the toll that has made April the deadliest month for tornadoes.

While more twisters occur in May and June, statistics collected by the federal government over more than 40 years show more deaths in April by a wide margin.

And Alabama ranks fourth in deaths over the same period.

Indeed, it was just four years ago, March 27, 1994, that tornadoes tore through northern Alabama and parts of Georgia, killing 42 people and injuring 320 in a spring outbreak.

Spring, with its warming but changeable weather tends to spawn the storms — cold fronts from the North and West can clash with warmer, wet air moving in from the

Gulf of Mexico, providing the swirling ingredients for the violent storms.

"This is typically the tornado season for them ... the occurrence of severe weather for the South and Southeast in the month of April is not an unusual occurrence," observed National Weather Service meteorologist Scott Kiser.

While the storms were severe, "this is just a typical spring and I would not associate this to an El Nino situation," Kiser added.

He was referring to the unusual Pacific Ocean phenomenon that has been blamed for a variety of unusual weather this year.

The Birmingham storms struck between 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. which is at about the end of the normal time for such weather, he added.

## Lockheed picked to build missiles

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon picked Lockheed Martin Corp. on Thursday to build its next generation of stealthy, air-launched cruise missiles in a deal that could be worth up to \$3 billion.

The Air Force wants to build 2,400 of the satellite-guided missiles, which pilots would launch while far from their targets. The weapons will have a range of about 115 miles and hug the terrain as they sneak past radar systems to attack enemy

air defense systems.

The loser in the competition for building the weapon called the "joint air to surface standoff missile," also known as the JASSM, was Boeing Co., based in Seattle, Wash.

The weapon will bolster "the effectiveness and the versatility" of the Air Force's bomber fleet in the coming century, said the service's acting secretary, F. Whitten Peters.

### Stripes

Stripes is produced by the editorial staff of The European Stars and Stripes at Darmstadt, Germany, from European and Pacific Stars and Stripes staff stories and wire service reports. The Internet address is <http://www.slite.afis.osd.mil/>

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# U.S. says Serb 'extremists' slipping

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moderate forces increasingly are taking charge in Bosnia as extremists, including Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, face a sharp reduction in popular support and in their ability to operate, the State Department said Thursday.

Spokesman James P. Rubin offered that upbeat assessment a day after NATO-led forces arrested two Bosnian Serbs suspected of prison camp atrocities during the ethnic war in Bosnia.

Given the bleak future that Karadzic faces, Rubin said, he should turn himself in to the U.N. war crimes tribunal. Karadzic has been blamed for some of the worst atrocities of the 3

1/2-year war that ended in 1995.

Rubin would not comment on a New York Times report asserting that special forces from the United States, the Netherlands and Britain have been training for weeks to seize Karadzic from Pale, seat of the Bosnian Serb wartime leadership.

U.S. officials discounted press reports that Karadzic has fled the Serb area of Bosnia.

The report quoted Carlos Westendorp, the top international official in Bosnia, as saying that Karadzic should be in custody at the Netherlands tribunal within a month, "either because he goes voluntarily or because he is taken."

Rubin said nations participating in

the Bosnia recovery are "tightening the noose around the neck of Mr. Karadzic." That goal, he added, is being accomplished by "shrinking his political space, shrinking his power base, shrinking his ability to operate and increasing the power and political space for those moderate Bosnian Serbs." He said moderates such as Prime Minister Milorad Dodik "are determined to see the people of the Bosnian Serb Republic regain the benefits that the former Yugoslavia had and to move away from the kind of extremism that Mr. Karadzic's faction represents." The ebullient mood in Washington is based partly on the sudden increase in the number of war crimes suspects in custody.

## Less than a week to tax time, IRS reports filing is smooth

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the tax deadline looming, some tax preparers who are dealing with more and more procrastinators cite capital gains changes as the culprit.

"I have never seen people being this late," said Carol Thompson, an enrolled agent in Monterey, Calif.

"I think part of it is there is a new tax law, and everyone has been hearing about Schedule D and what a monster it is."

The Internal Revenue Service said that as of April 3, 67.4 million tax-

payers had filed their federal returns, slightly more than half the 124 million individual income tax returns expected this year. The number of returns filed was about 0.8 percent ahead of last year's pace, the IRS said.

"The overall impression is that the filing season is running very smoothly," said Joseph F. Lane of the National Association of Enrolled Agents, tax preparers licensed to practice before the IRS. Lane, who addressed a House Ways and Means subcommittee last week, credited the IRS

with improved responsiveness to taxpayer complaints.

The 1997 tax bill reduced the maximum capital gains rate from 28 percent to 20 percent.

The complex transition rules created by Congress caused the Schedule D capital gains worksheet to doubled in size to 54 lines from the year before.

Todd Ransom, H&R Block spokesman, said the company is expecting many taxpayers to pull out their tax paperwork for the first time after Easter dinner this Sunday.

## Arresting of Pol Pot would be legal: experts

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton's apparent desire to have the United States play a lead role in bringing about the arrest and trial of former Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot for the murders of as many as 2 million Cambodians can be fulfilled without offending international law, some experts have declared.

The president reportedly has ordered the departments of Defense, State and Justice to prepare strategies to arrest Pol Pot, who from 1975 to 1979 led the Khmer Rouge regime until it was toppled by Vietnam.

If the American government is bold enough to take him into custody, international law is malleable enough to find a country to serve as host for trial.

"Arrest and trial is readily achievable as a matter of law," says Diane Orentlicher, an American University law professor.

"The real question is whether there's the political will. The law is not a problem."

The trial probably could not be held in the United States.

## White House steward is questioned

By Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — A White House steward with access to areas around the Oval Office appeared Thursday before the federal grand jury investigating President Clinton's relationship with a former intern.

The witness, Glen A. Maes, 40, is the second White House steward prosecutors have summoned before the grand jury. Maes made no statement to reporters.

The staff of Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr is seeking information from any White House aides who may have observed Clinton in the company of the former intern, Monica S. Lewinsky.

Starr is investigating whether the president has testified falsely or otherwise sought to cover up illegally the nature of his dealings with Lewinsky or another former White House aide, Kathleen E. Willey.

# Church dismisses cloning of Jesus

By The Guardian

LONDON — A movie based on the idea of cloning Jesus Christ from DNA material found on the Shroud of Turin was dismissed by churches Thursday as “fanciful.”

Filmmaker David Rolfe is planning to make a “spine-chilling” science fiction thriller about international power games and a cloned Jesus.

Rolfe, who has done research on the shroud, main-

tains the “‘Jurassic Park’-style idea” has some plausibility. He claims that the cardinal of Turin has called for the return of blood samples taken from the shroud and given to scientists for testing.

“Obviously, the church itself would not sanction or instigate cloning from the shroud, but they can’t rule out the possibility that someone else might try it,” Rolfe said. “Someone in possession of the shroud might just put together enough DNA from the

blood on it to clone, ‘Jurassic Park’-style, the person to whom the blood belonged, whoever it may be.”

Rolfe believes an arson attack last year on the Turin chapel that houses the shroud could have been a bungled attempt to steal it for this very purpose.

But spokesmen and theologians described the idea as pure fantasy. The Rev. David Hilborn, theological secretary to Britain’s Evangelical Alliance, pointed out that carbon

dating tests on the shroud in 1988 had concluded that it was medieval fabric.

“The shroud has been pretty conclusively debunked, but leaving that aside, you cannot clone Jesus Christ anyway. God does not have DNA,” Hilborn said. “If you cloned cells from the grave clothes, you might get someone who looked like Jesus, spoke like Jesus, but it would be a mere physical similarity. He would not be the lord and master of the universe.”

## Castro likes Pentagon report finding Cuba no threat to U.S.

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The U.S. Defense Department found praise Thursday from an unlikely source: Cuba.

President Fidel Castro said a recent Pentagon report finding Cuba poses no threat to the United States was “an objective report by serious people,” the Cuban Communist Party’s newspaper Granma reported Thursday.

“It was crazy, really, to think that Cuba constituted a danger for the United States,” the Cuban leader told reporters after meeting Dominican Foreign Minister Eduardo Latorre Wednesday night.

Castro said Cuba had been a political threat to U.S. dominance in Latin America but had never been a military threat to Washington.

The Granma report did not mention the Soviet nuclear missiles located briefly on the island in 1961, which caused a U.S.-Soviet showdown that

threatened to plunge the world into a nuclear war.

“Could we say ourselves that the United States does not represent any threat for Cuba?” Castro asked hypothetically — implying that it still does. The leader said Cuba’s victory over a U.S.-organized invasion force at the Bay of Pigs in 1961 showed Cuba was a threat to invaders. Granma said Castro also praised a proposal before the U.S. Congress, which would ease restrictions on sales of food and medicine to Cuba, but rejected a rival measure backed by Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, which would send aid to Cuba but only through U.S. aid organizations. U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen has been reviewing the report on Cuba by the Defense Intelligence Agency. The Miami Herald reported last month that it concludes Cuba is not a significant threat to U.S. national security.

## ‘Store rage’ lands woman in hospital

By Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MILWAUKEE — Vickie Lemons’ only offense was having more than 10 items as she stood in the express-check-out lane at a grocery store. But another customer became so enraged, she sliced off part of Lemons’ nose because of it, police said.

The “store rage” incident occurred at Kohl’s Food Store. Lemons, 27, had gone to the store around 8 p.m. Wednesday to purchase soda, meat and a few other items, according to her fiancé, James Powell.

Powell said the express-lane cashier had no one in her line and waved Lemons over even though she had more than the specified 10-item limit. Powell declined to say how many items his fiancée had.

A 41-year-old woman who entered the line behind Lemons “took umbrage because Lemons exceeded the 10 items,” said police Capt. Joseph Purpero.

“It was ridiculous,” Powell said.

“The lady was saying, ‘It’s only 10 items,’ and then she blew a fuse and started calling her (Lemons) names. There was just no logic to it, no logic at all.”

Purpero said the woman accosted Lemons in the parking lot immediately after Lemons left the store, whipping out a pocket knife.

## Detroit OKs \$1.8 billion casino plan

DETROIT (AP) — The City Council approved a \$1.8 billion plan Thursday to make Detroit the largest city in the country with casino gambling, despite complaints that blacks were shut out of the project and concerns about the riverfront location.

The plan to build three casinos in a warehouse district east of downtown on the Detroit River now goes to the Michigan Gaming Control Board for review.

“We’re obviously very happy and very pleased,” said Herb Strather, chair-

man of Atwater group, a partnership that includes Las Vegas-based Circus Circus.

Circus-Circus won one of the three casino franchises.

The other two went to MGM Grand and Greentown/Chippewa Indians.

# Stampede mars holy pilgrimage

MECCA, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The pilgrimage to Mecca is prized by Muslims as one of the most profound of religious experiences. Sadly, however, the annual event is fast becoming known for something altogether different: recurrent tragedy.

Fires, stampedes and protests have marred previous pilgrimages, and this year had its own disaster, when more than 150 faithful were trampled to death in Saudi Arabian desert.

Police said thousands could have died Thursday in Mina, about three miles from Mecca, if security forces had not intervened to stop the rush on the last day of the holy journey, known as the hajj.

The stampede began when worshipers surged forward to carry out a ritual known as "stoning the devil," in which people hurl pebbles at three pillars symbolizing the temptations of Satan.

Some of the victims had sat down to rest on an elevated walkway in the 100-degree heat while waiting to move toward the site of the stoning. They were trampled from behind by fellow pilgrims when word came that the group could move. Others were knocked off the walkway and fell 17 feet to their deaths.

Those killed were from Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Pakistan and the Mideast, said police and doctors.

Saudi officials say Asian Muslims tend not to believe in a symbolic throw and rush to get close enough for their pebbles to strike the pillars.

# Senator recalls Vietnam as medics test their skills

By Stars and Stripes  
SCHWEINFURT, Germany — From behind a curtain of green smoke, U.S. Sen. Max Cleland, D-Ga., watched an Army medic bandage and splint a mock casualty in a race against the clock.

The scene took the Vietnam veteran back 30 years to the grenade explosion that robbed him of his legs and right arm.

"Without people like this I wouldn't be here," Cleland said Wednesday as he watched Staff Sgt. Michael Krug tend to four mock casualties during testing for the Expert Field Medical Badge near Schweinfurt.

The test for the badge — the most coveted peacetime decoration among Army medical personnel — is steeped in pride, professionalism and endurance. On Wednesday, only 24 candidates for the badge remained out of the 255 soldiers from throughout U.S. Army Europe. Testing began April 5.

A mix of chaos blurted from a loud speaker — shouts, explosions and screams. Soldiers acting as casualties twitched and moaned. One cradled a broken arm. Another stared at the rubber intestines hanging above his waist line. Another two called for help while test cadre lit up another smoke grenade to add realism.

"Many people forget that so many people in the military are life-savers, not life-takers," Cleland said. "These people are very special to me."

A combination of coincidence and duty brought the senator to Camp Robertson, a U.S. Army training site

near Schweinfurt, this day. A member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, elected in 1996, Cleland was on a fact-finding trip to measure troop morale, a mission that brought him to Schweinfurt and will carry him to Bosnia for Easter dinner with American troops on Sunday.

But the chance to visit the EFMB test site gave the Atlanta-born senator the chance to spend the day with medics like those who saved his life 30 years ago — an anniversary he marks each year by celebrating the fact that he is alive.

As a 25-year-old signal corps captain, Cleland helped set up and maintain communications systems in the field and saw combat during the bloody battle for Khe Sanh. On April 8, 1968, near the end of his tour of duty in Vietnam, Cleland jumped out of a helicopter to see a hand grenade on the ground. According to his biography, he thought the grenade had fallen off his vest and as he bent over to pick it up, it exploded.

"I was fighting to stay conscious," Cleland said Wednesday during an interview with The Stars and Stripes. "My ears were numb. I couldn't talk. There was a team of four medics on a hill nearby — so I was fortunate, if you can be fortunate in a situation like that. One started working on me, tearing off my uniform and tearing it up into tourniquets and easing the loss of blood."

Cleland was on a helicopter and bound for a battalion aid station within minutes.

# Belfast's pressure-cooker talks go into overtime

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Round-the-clock talks on Northern Ireland's future edged ever nearer to an outcome early Friday as the American chairmen amended a draft settlement.

Eight parties remained locked in debate well after midnight, the talks' intended deadline, in an all-out push to conclude negotiations that began 22 months ago under the direction of former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell.

The goal is a historic compromise in which Protestants and Catholics would govern Northern Ireland together, and co-operate formally with the Irish Republic in a north-south council consisting of lawmakers.

The cross-border institution is essential to win support from the north's Catholics, who oppose Northern Ireland's creation as a Protestant-majority state 77 years ago.

John Taylor, deputy leader of the Ulster Unionists, the main pro-British Protestant party, said he thought Mitchell would present a new draft to the parties before daybreak, taking on board conclusions reached in the past few days' negotiations.

This draft, Taylor said, would be debated "paragraph by paragraph" by each party and be subject to further demands for amendments.

# Secrecy shrouds filming of final 'Seinfeld' episode

By Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — After nearly a decade of chatting in the coffee shop, munching on cereal, breaking up with all potential mates and yada yada yada, Jerry, George, Elaine and Kramer are ending their run as masters of their TV domain.

The final episode of *Seinfeld* — famously about nothing at all except laughs — started filming about 9 p.m. Wednesday. The show is going out on top, still television's No. 1 comedy and the centerpiece of NBC's powerhouse Thursday night lineup.

Filming began late and progressed slowly, said NBC spokeswoman Melissa Harold, who described the mood on the sound stage as sentimental.

The hourlong finale, which will air on May 14, was being handled under top-secret conditions reminiscent of the "Who Shot J.R.?" episode of *Dallas*.

A VIP crowd was expected to watch some scenes, but the ending will be filmed without an audience. Those involved with the show were asked to sign confidentiality agreements, and scripts were kept from actors and NBC executives.

"It's surreal if you're an actor. You don't know what you're going to be doing," John O'Hurley, who plays catalog

guru J. Peterman, told the Los Angeles Times. "We're just told what to do."

Supposed leaks about the ending — one of which had Jerry and his pals ending up in Los Angeles — were dismissed by producers as inaccurate.

## Heartthrob Michael arrested

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Pop star George Michael, the British-born heartthrob whose hit songs include the too-hot-for-radio *I Want Your Sex*, was arrested on suspicion of committing a lewd act in a park restroom.

The 34-year-old singer was alone in a restroom in Will Rogers Park when an undercover officer saw him commit the act Tuesday, police Lt. Edward Kreins said. Kreins would not identify the act and said only that Michael did not proposition the officer.

The park is on Sunset Boulevard across from the Beverly Hills Hotel.

Michael was handcuffed, taken to the police station and booked for investigation of misdemeanor lewd conduct. He was released on \$500 bail.

Michael's manager in London, Andy Stevens, did not immediately return a call Wednesday. His publicity agency had no comment.

Michael was one of Princess Diana's favorite singers and attended her funeral in September. He and Andrew Ridgeley shot to stardom in the 1980s as the duo Wham!

**Faces  
'n'  
places**

# 'Jeopardy' seeks troops in Europe

By Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Answer: Alex Trebek, host of Jeopardy.

Question: Which television quiz show host will be on tour in Europe soon?

Jeopardy, based in Los Angeles, is looking for servicemembers to appear in a weeklong special dedicated to the military, said Scott Gruber of the United Service Organizations headquarters in Washington.

The nine-day search begins April 18 when the show's staff will test prospective contestants at seven locations in Belgium, Germany, Iceland, Italy and the United Kingdom. Prospective contestants must be in the military.

Troops must pass a 50-question qualifying test to compete in a mock game of Jeopardy. Qualified contestants also will be given a brief personality interview, Gruber said.

Participants of the mock game show will be notified later if they are selected for the special televised program. The shows are to run sometime between July 1998 and March 1999. A time for taping the show has not been decided, Gruber said.

# 'Mister Rogers' getting doctorate

EDINBORO, Pa. (AP) — Another year, another honorary doctorate for television's Mister Rogers.

Fred Rogers, host of the PBS children's series *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, will be awarded the doctorate on May 9 by Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

"I will have to admit we're kind of on the tail end of giving him an honorary doctorate," university spokesman William Reed Jr. said. "If I remember right, he has 39 of them to date. We may be the 40th or somewhere in that neighborhood."

Rogers' show debuted in 1968.

## In The Stars and Stripes

### 10 YEARS AGO

April 9, 1988 — Students stormed to U.S. Embassy annex buildings in Honduras and set them ablaze before they were dispersed with bullets, beatings and tear gas. At least five demonstrators were killed and 10 wounded.

### 20 YEARS AGO

April 9, 1978 — President Ferdinand Marcos declared that his wife, Imelda, and 20 running mates swept metropolitan Manila national assembly elections, allowing him to retain near-total control of the martial-law government.

### 30 YEARS AGO

April 9, 1968 — Coretta Scott King, the widow of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., joined a silent march of thousands in Memphis, Tenn., in honor of her slain husband.

### 40 YEARS AGO

April 9, 1958 — A Strategic Air Command KC-135 Stratojet tanker established a long-distance record for jet aircraft by flying without refueling from Yokota, Japan, to Lajes in the Azores.

### 50 YEARS AGO

April 9, 1948 — Yale University announced the discovery in Baghdad, Iraq, of an ancient tablet 3,900 years old that contained the "oldest code of laws in the world."



# Orioles wins seventh straight

By Associated Press

For Baltimore it was an easy formula: Turning two five times meant seven straight.

The Orioles tied a club record with five double plays Thursday night and won their seventh consecutive game with a 2-1 victory over the Kansas City Royals.

Baltimore got its fifth double play in an unconventional manner.

After the Royals loaded the bases in the eighth, Jeff King hit a one-out line drive that left fielder B.J. Surhoff caught before releasing an accurate throw to catcher Chris Hoiles, who tagged out Jeff Halter.

"It was a soft line drive that hung up there," Surhoff said. "I had a chance to run in on it, and the big thing was I kept it (the throw) down. Chris made a great play to block the plate."

Joe Carter drove in Roberto Alomar with the go-ahead run in the eighth inning

as the Orioles went to 7-1 for the fourth time in franchise history.

"It was a big hit," Carter said. "But it wasn't as big a play as B.J. made in the outfield."

Elsewhere in the American League, it was: Texas 11, Chicago 0 and Minnesota 13, Toronto 2. Tampa Bay at Detroit was postponed by rain.



It was the third straight loss for the Royals, who failed to score after loading the bases on two occasions.

"You get the bases loaded twice, you got to knock them in and that's what we didn't do," Royals manager Tony Muser said. "That's the ballgame for us offensively. Period. I have all the respect in the world for the Baltimore Orioles, but when you have a chance to beat them, you have to beat them."

Jimmy Key (1-0) allowed one run and six hits in seven innings and Armando Benitez pitched the ninth for his second save.

The Royals wasted a nice outing by Pat Rapp, who gave up one run and three hits in seven innings. He walked four, struck out three and has given up just five hits and one run in 14 innings against Baltimore.

Baltimore's Cal Ripken homered in the seventh inning to tie it 1-1. The shot moved him past Lou Gehrig for 45th on the career hits list with 2,721.

## Rangers 11, White Sox 0

At Chicago, Aaron Sele pitched a three-hitter for his first career shutout.

Lee Stevens hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs, and Juan Gonzalez added a two-run double to back Sele, making his 110th career start. Sele beat Chicago 20-4 on April 2.

## Wind works against Tiger at Augusta

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Tiger Woods proved in last year's Masters he could overwhelm Augusta National. Now it's clear he can also outsmart it.

When Woods walked away from here with a green jacket on his back and a record 18-under par on his scorecard, the cry went up to "Tigerize" Augusta.

Make it longer. Grow rough. Move the bunkers back.

But all it took to reveal the devilishly deceiving design of the grand old course planned by Bobby Jones 65 years ago was an unnerving wind and some wicked greens.

Augusta National rose up in Thursday's first round and Woods responded by proving he can play championship caliber golf even when things are not going his way. Woods scrambled to a 1-under-par 71, putting him two strokes behind leader Fred Couples, another former Masters winner, with 10 players still on the course.

# Piazza turns boos to cheers with six RBIs

By The Associated Press

Mike Piazza turned the boos into cheers real fast. That's what happens when you hit a pair of homers and drive in six runs.

"It's been a little frustrating, getting off to a tough start," Piazza said after leading the Los Angeles Dodgers over the Arizona Diamondbacks 7-2 Thursday night. "But it's such a long year. Tonight, I felt very relaxed, like I turned a page and moved on."

Piazza, booed in the Dodgers' first two home games as a result of contract negotiations, sent a pitch from Jeff Suppan (0-2) halfway up the pavilion in left-center field, a drive estimated at 445 feet, after Jose Vizcaino walked in the first.

In the third, Piazza hit his sixth career slam after Ismael Valdes (1-1) singled, and Eric Young and Vizcaino bunted for hits. This time, Piazza's fly to left-center barely cleared the fence. In fact, center fielder Devon White said he should have caught it.

"Fortunately, I had a couple good pitches to hit and didn't miss them," said Piazza who entered the game with only five



hits in 29 at-bats.

Eligible for free agency after the season, Piazza announced Wednesday he had instructed his agent to break off negotiations on a contract extension. He apologized to fans and teammates for allowing the talks to become a distraction.

"I said what I wanted to say and that was it," Piazza said. "I feel like it's ridiculous to rehash. What is done is done. I can't bring back the past. You make mistakes and you move on. You've got to bury it."

In other games, Montreal beat Milwaukee 6-5, St. Louis beat Colorado 7-5, Atlanta beat Pittsburgh 4-3, Chicago beat New York 8-7, San Diego beat Cincinnati 6-2 and Houston beat San Francisco 6-1. Florida's game at Philadelphia was rained out.

At Los Angeles, Arizona dropped to 2-7. Valdes allowed both runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings, while Suppan gave up six runs and eight hits in four innings.

## Expos 6, Brewers 5

Visiting Montreal got its first victory of the season after an 0-7 start on F.P. Santangelo's RBI single off Bob Wickman (0-2) in the ninth.

# A rarity: Nuggets win, Bulls lose

By Associated Press

It was a noteworthy night for the NBA's best and worst teams.

The Denver Nuggets avoided any chance of finishing with the worst record in league history by beating the Sacramento Kings 128-103 Thursday for their 10th victory of the season.

With five games remaining, the Nuggets (10-67) are assured of finishing with at least one more victory than the 1972-73 Philadelphia 76ers, who went 9-73.

"It hasn't sunk in yet, but I'm sure it's

a relief," said Denver coach Bill Hanzlik. "With the way this season has been, we'll probably be called for running an illegal play and have to forfeit the game."

While the Nuggets got a rare win, the Chicago Bulls went down to a rare defeat.

The Bulls had their 13-game winning streak snapped by the Cleveland Cavaliers, 91-85. Chicago, which has an NBA-best 59-18 record, blew a chance to clinch the top record in the Eastern Conference.

"Cleveland was the aggressor," Bulls

coach Phil Jackson said. "They played well. Those young kids took it to us."

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was Detroit 102, Washington 83; Indiana 105, Atlanta 102 in overtime; Seattle 103, Dallas 101; Portland 99, the Los Angeles Clippers 95; and Houston 93, Golden State 89.

## Cavaliers 91, Bulls 85

At Cleveland, Brevin Knight had a career-high 22 points, five steals and four assists.

Michael Jordan, whose buzzer-beating shots knocked Cleveland out of the playoffs in 1989 and 1993, scored 29 points.

## A weeping Allen retires from football

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A weeping Marcus Allen knew it was time to retire when he realized he could no longer make great plays — and was in danger of becoming crippled if he tried.

Stopping several times to wipe away tears, one of the most honored running backs in NFL history announced Thursday he was ending his 16-year career and joining CBS as a football analyst.

"I played with love and courage and tenacity. That's all I wanted to do," said the 38-year-old Allen, a former league and Super Bowl MVP who appeared in more games (222), rushed for more touchdowns (123) and caught more passes (587) than any other running back in NFL annals. His total of 12,243 rushing yards is No. 6 all-time.

"I don't mind crying because I feel I'm happy," he said after somebody passed him a handkerchief.

Allen, the first running back in NFL history to rush for more than 10,000 yards and catch passes for more than 5,000, told Kansas City Chiefs coach Marty Schottenheimer just last week that he would play another season.

"I did tell Marty I was returning," Allen said.

"But the one constant I've had since I came into this league was I could visualize and see plays unfolding, and be a part of that. And frankly, as hard as I tried to create that, the vision wasn't as strong as it needed to be."

## It's party time in Boston as Bruins back in playoffs

By Associated Press

The Boston Bruins won't have to worry about missing the playoffs this season. The same can't be said for some of those other nervous teams involved in torrid races in both NHL conferences.

After missing the playoffs for the first time in 30 years last season, the Bruins made sure it wouldn't happen again with a 4-1 victory over the New York Islanders on Thursday night.

"They've come a long way in a short time," Islanders coach Mike Milbury said of the Bruins, who brought in 12 new players and a new coach in Pat Burns. "They made solid trades and have outstanding coaching."

The Bruins not only made the playoffs this time, they actually have a chance at home ice in the first round. With 85 points, they're in fourth place with a one-point lead over

Washington and two points over Buffalo and Montreal.

Meanwhile, Ottawa and Carolina are battling for the final spot in the East. Both took care of business Thursday night, the Senators beating Pittsburgh 4-1 and the Hurricanes knocking off Toronto 5-2. The results maintained Ottawa's two-point lead over the ninth-place Hurricanes.

"It's kind of scary how they're playing right now," Ottawa goaltender Damian Rhodes said of the charging Hurricanes, who are 7-2-1 in their last 10 games. "I don't want it to go down to the last game of the year."

In the West, San Jose, Edmonton and Phoenix are tied for sixth with 74 points, while Chicago is ninth with 72. Thursday night, the Sharks beat Anaheim 5-2, Edmonton stopped Los Angeles 4-0, and Chicago lost to St. Louis 3-2.

## Ex-boxing champ Tate killed

By Scripps Howard

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — "Big John" Tate, the former heavyweight boxing champion who could neither read nor write and turned to a life of petty crime and panhandling, was killed in a one-vehicle accident early Thursday morning.

Tate, 43, died after the pickup truck he was driving crashed into a utility pole.

Police Department officer Tony Willis said the accident occurred 3:41 a.m. Two passengers, identified by police as Lisa Hall and James Edward Huff, suffered minor in-

juries, Lt. Bob Wooldridge said.

Wooldridge said officers were investigating what role the use of alcohol or drugs might have played in the crash.

Tate was the 1976 Olympic bronze medalist at Montreal, losing to Teofilo Stevenson.